



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 1000409-000093

RCE\$
Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Yoichi Fukumoto et al.

Application No.: 10/780,675

Filing Date: February 19, 2004

Title: SLIDE DOOR OPENING AND
CLOSING DEVICE FOR VEHICLES

) MAIL STOP RCE

) Group Art Unit: 3634

) Examiner: JERRY E. REDMAN

) Confirmation No.: 1991

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL LETTER

MAIL STOP RCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Customer Number **21839**

Sir:

Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application and encloses the ☐ \$395 ☒ \$790 fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

1. ☐ A. Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified in item 2 below.

☒ B. Applicant(s) previously submitted the following documents for which continued examination is requested:

☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on February 13, 2007.

☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____.

☒ Other: Comments Accompanying Request for Continued Examination

2. The following documents are enclosed with this submission:

☐ Amendment/Reply

☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

☐ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Petition for Extension of Time

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☐ Other:

3. ☐ Small entity status is hereby claimed.

☒ No additional claim fee is required.

☐ The fee is calculated below on the basis of the highest number of claims already paid for in this application prior to this submission:

					FEES
Examination Fee (1801)					\$ 790
	No. of Claims		Extra Claims	Rate	
Total Claims	19	20	0	x 50 (1202)	\$ 0
Independent Claims	2	3	0	x 200 (1201)	\$ 0
If multiple dependent claims are presented, add \$ 360					\$ 0
Total Fee					\$ 790
<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Application Fee					\$ 0
TOTAL FEE DUE					\$ 790

4. ☐ Charge _____ to Deposit Account No. **02-4800** for the fee due.

5. ☐ A check in the amount of _____ is enclosed for the fee due.

6. ☒ Charge \$ 790 to credit card for the fee due. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

7. ☐ Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least _____, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

8. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 12, 2007

By:



Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

P.O. Box 1404
Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
703 836 6620



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Yoyoichi Fukumoto et al.

Application No.: 10/780,675

Filed: February 19, 2004

For: SLIDE DOOR OPENING AND
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**COMMENTS ACCOMPANYING REQUEST
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being submitted with a Request for Continued Examination which requests entry of the Amendment previously filed on February 13, 2007. That Amendment changed to wording in the independent claims to avoid the grammatically awkward language reciting that the step panel is positioned at the under part of the vehicle. As described in the specification, the step panel is located at the under part of the side opening of the vehicle (i.e., the lower part of the vehicle side opening). That is, as mentioned on page one of the application, the step panel is used as a step to enter into or get out of the vehicle. To avoid the somewhat awkward earlier claim wording, Claims 1 and 13 were amended to recite that the step panel is positioned at the under part or lower part of the vehicle side opening.

Favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: March 12, 2007

By:



Matthew L. Schneider
Registration No. 32814

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1404
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